

Applicant : Lee A. Chase
Appln. No. : 10/701,859
Page : 2

In the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A headlamp assembly including a lens, ~~and a housing, and having~~ a flexure member positioned between the lens and the housing, said flexure member having a thickness or flex modulus and tensile modulus that varies along longitudinal direction between the lens and the housing ~~therebetween, wherein the improvement comprises[[:]]~~

~~said flexure member being shaped to dynamically change its energy absorption characteristics during impact.~~

2. (Canceled).

3. (Canceled).

4. (Canceled).

5. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The headlamp assembly of claim 1, wherein ~~including a lens and housing having a flexure member positioned therebetween, wherein the improvement comprises[[:]]~~

~~said flexure member being~~ is made of two or more different materials that have different flex modulus and different tensile modulus.

6. (Previously Presented) The assembly claim 1, wherein the flexure member has a longitudinally variable thickness.

7. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ A headlamp assembly including a lens, a housing, and a ~~of claim 1, wherein the flexure member positioned between the lens and the housing, wherein the flexure member~~ has a variable lateral thickness.

Applicant : Lee A. Chase
Appln. No. : 10/701,859
Page : 3

8. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ A headlamp assembly of claim 1, wherein the including a lens, a housing, and a flexure member positioned between the lens and the housing, wherein the flexure member has a plurality of longitudinal ribs.

9. (Canceled).

10. (Canceled).

11. (Canceled).

12. (New) A headlamp assembly including a lens, a housing, and a flexure member positioned between the lens and the housing, the flexure member including intersecting surfaces and a preformed bulge at the intersection of the intersecting surfaces.

13. (New) A headlamp assembly including a lens, a housing, and a flexure member positioned between the lens and the housing, the lens including a guide, and the housing including a guide track engaging the guide for controlling the direction of movement of the lens during an impact.

14. (New) A headlamp assembly including a lens, a housing, and a flexure member positioned between the lens and the housing, the flexure member having undulations.

15. (New) A headlamp assembly including a lens, a housing, and a flexure member positioned between the lens and the housing, the flexure member having a sinusoidal longitudinal cross section.

16. (New) A headlamp assembly including a lens, a housing, and a flexure member positioned between the lens and the housing, and hollow tubes extending transversely through the flexible member.

Applicant : Lee A. Chase
Appln. No. : 10/701,859
Page : 4

17. (New) A headlamp assembly comprising a lens, a housing, and a flexure member extending between the lens and the housing, the lens and the housing having interactive elements guiding movement of the lens relative to the housing during an impact, whereby the direction of deflection of the flexure member during an impact is controlled.